

Evening Prayer for 12 September 2020 – Welcome

Welcome to Evening Prayer from St Mary's Cathedral in Glasgow which will be shared in cyberspace in a Zoom meeting room and led by the Provost, the Very Rev Kelvin Holdsworth.

The cathedral experimented with this for a few years starting in December 2011 and these services have been revived during the time that church buildings are shut due to the Corona Virus.

One of the things which causes some difficulty is the slight time lag between the different people speaking. This makes reciting something together a bit of a challenge and the delays would make singing something together impossible.

The service this evening will be led by 2 people – the leader and responder. These two people will keep their microphones on throughout. Everyone else will be muted for the first part of the service. Your microphone will be unmuted so that we can say the Magnificat and the Lord's Prayer together and so that you can contribute an intercession if you want to do so. Please join in aloud with all the prayers in bold, saying them with the responder.

The number of people attending will be recorded in the service book at St Mary's.

The service will begin at 1700 BST.. The room will be open from 1645. People will go into a waiting room first and be admitted into the main room. (This is to cope with the problem of non-participants disrupting publicly advertised zoom meetings). Please try to arrive before 5 pm.

The zoom page you are looking for is:

<https://zoom.us/j/98991830332?pwd=dW15ZXFKNUJKbnZFWmdXekREMdYrQT09>

Meeting ID: 989 9183 0332 Password: 021197

Your microphone will be muted unless you are one of the 2 leaders.

Week C – Saturday

O God, make speed to save us:

O Lord, make haste to help us.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.**

Psalmody

Search me out, O God, and know my heart
try me and know my restless thoughts

Opening - from Psalm 139

- 1 You trace my journeys and my resting-places*
and are acquainted with all my ways.
 - 2 **Indeed there is not a word on my lips,*
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.**
 - 3 If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me,*
and the light around me turn to night',
 - 4 **Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day;*
darkness and light to you are both alike.**
- Glory to God, Source of all Being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.**

Psalm 19

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God,*
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 **One day tells its tale to another,*
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**
- 3 Although they have no words or language,*
and their voices are not heard,

- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands,*
and their message to the ends of the world.**
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun;*
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again;***
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;*
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;***
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever;*
the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,*
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened,*
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends?***
cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me;*
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offence.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,*
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

**Glory to God, Source of all Being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.**

Conclusion – a song of Pilgrimage (From Sirach 51)

- 1 While I was still young, before I began my travels,*
I sought for wisdom openly in my prayers.
- 2 **I asked for her outside the temple sanctuary,*
and I will seek her to the end.**
- 3 She has been the delight of my heart.*
from first blossom to early fruit.
- 4 **I have kept firmly to the true path;*
I have followed her steps since my youth.**
- 5 I bowed my ear a little and received her;*
I found wisdom and was well instructed.
- 6 **Glory to the One who gives me wisdom!***
I will live according to her way.
- 7 From the beginning I gained understanding from her;*
therefore I will never be deserted.
- 8 **Because I longed to find her with all my heart,*
I have gained a good possession.**
- 9 As my reward the Lord has given me a tongue*
with which I shall sing his praises.

**Glory to God, Source of all Being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.**

**My eyes are turned to you, Lord God;
In you I take refuge; do not strip me of my life.**

Readings

Acts 15.22-35

Then the apostles and the elders, with the consent of the whole church, decided to choose men from among their members and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leaders among the brothers, with the following letter: 'The brothers, both the apostles and the elders, to the believers of Gentile origin in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greetings. Since we have heard that certain persons who have gone out from us, though with no instructions from us, have said things to disturb you and have unsettled your minds, we have decided unanimously to choose representatives and send them to you, along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, who have risked their lives for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth. For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to impose on you no further burden than these essentials: that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled and from fornication. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.'

So they were sent off and went down to Antioch. When they gathered the congregation together, they delivered the letter. When its members read it, they rejoiced at the exhortation. Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, said much to encourage and strengthen the believers. After they had been there for some time, they were sent off in peace by the believers to those who had sent them. But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, and there, with many others, they taught and proclaimed the word of the Lord.

John 11.45-54

Many of the Jews who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what he had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the

council, and said, 'What are we to do? This man is performing many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and destroy both our holy place and our nation.' But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, 'You know nothing at all! You do not understand that it is better for you to have one man die for the people than to have the whole nation destroyed.' He did not say this on his own, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus was about to die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but to gather into one the dispersed children of God. So from that day on they planned to put him to death.

Jesus therefore no longer walked about openly among the Jews, but went from there to a town called Ephraim in the region near the wilderness; and he remained there with the disciples.

Silence

Response – Sirach 51.26

Buy wisdom without money, take her yoke upon you.

Buy wisdom without money, take her yoke upon you.

Let your souls receive instruction.

Take her yoke upon you.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Buy wisdom without money, take her yoke upon you.

Your microphone will unmuted at this point.

Magnificat

God has come to the aid of his servant Israel,
as he promised to Abraham and his children.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for you, Lord, have looked with favour on your lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed:
You, the Almighty, have done great things for me
and holy is your name.

You have mercy on those who fear you
from generation to generation.

You have shown strength with your arm
and scattered the proud in their conceit,
casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.

You have filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.

You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,
to remember the promise of mercy,
the promise made to our forebears,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to God, Source of all Being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.

God has come to the aid of his servant Israel,
as he promised to Abraham and his children.

Prayers

Anyone can offer a prayer at this point in the service.

*Prayers may end with the bidding: Lord in your mercy – **Hear our Prayer.***

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Do not bring us to the time of trial,

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and for ever. Amen.

Your microphone will be muted at this point.

Gracious creator of heaven and earth, your Word has come among us as the true Sun of righteousness, and the good news of his birth has gone out to the ends of the world. Open our eyes to the light of your law, that we may be purified from sin and serve you without reproach for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Light and our Life. **Amen.**

Lord God almighty, come and dispel the darkness from our hearts, that in the radiance of your brightness we may know you, the only unfading light, glorious in all eternity. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord:

Thanks be to God!

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing:
through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.